

The Parish of St Nicholas Church, Remenham

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parochial Church Council

Held on Thursday 3 March 2016 in the Chantry House at 8.00pm

Present: Father Martyn Griffiths, Chairman
Mike Dowsett
Nigel Gray, Treasurer
Ruth Palethorpe, Secretary
Eileen Dowsett
Sue Laing
Glen Palethorpe
Leslie Prescot
Anthony West
Hugh Whitfield
Anthony West
Felicity Rutland, Parish Newsletter Editor.

Apologies: Charlotte Every, Kim Blythe, Anthea Prescot.

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 November 2015 were proposed by Sue Laing, seconded by Leslie Prescot and approved unanimously.

1 Matters Arising:

a) Parish Newsletter:

Felicity Rutland relayed comprehensive details concerning costs and income of the publication supported by a handout, copy on file. After much discussion it was clear the finances were not as grave as previously thought. Father Martyn stated that more accurate figures were needed for 2016: Felicity Rutland, Nigel Gray and Sue Laing **agreed** to liaise to provide this information.

b) Churchyard maintenance:

Charlotte Every had organised a working party for Saturday 19th March.

Father Martyn had asked the stone masons to look at the Strange grave and he was awaiting their report.

Father Martyn had chased the Quinquennial Inspection Report which was seriously overdue having been carried out in October.

c) Organ repair/replacement

Father Martyn led the discussion; he shared two quotations, one from J. W. Walker & Sons Ltd and the other from Tarquin Wiggins Ltd. Both these quotations gave detailed analysis of the required work but the Committee felt the huge cost involved, over £40k could not be justified. Father Martyn also circulated two estimates for a replacement electronic organ from Eminent Organs and Allen Organs respectively. After brief discussion the committee **voted unanimously** to proceed with the

purchase of this considerably cheaper option, would be less than £10k. Father Martyn will contact the Diocese Office to liaise with the organ adviser. [**ACTION** Father Martyn].

2 Finance Report:

Nigel Gray shared the Draft Annual Report with the committee. Father Martyn proposed they be accepted as a true and accurate account, this was unanimously **agreed** and will now be presented at the AGM.

3 Parish Hall:

Father Martyn advised the water source has now been found so work can proceed to fit a UV filter to satisfy Health and Safety requirements. There was nothing further to report on the Hall.

4 Any other Business:

a) Queen's 90th birthday celebrations:

Sue Laing advised she has organised a Beetle Drive on Saturday 23rd April. This would be a fun event the ticket price of £15.00 per head would include a fish and chip supper.

Discussions were in progress for a commemorative event to take place sometime in June.

b) Berkshire Record Office:

Father Martyn advised two boxes of archival items had been taken to the Berkshire Record Office, who have acknowledged receipt.

5 Date of Next Meeting:

Thursday 12 May 2016 at 8pm in the Chantry House.